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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----

The First & Only Weekly on Philately & Postal Services of India

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I N T H I S I S S U E

Best Stamp of 2005  
Forthcoming Stamp Issues  
New Stamps Released  
Postal Stationery Updates  
Farewell to the Postmaster General North Bengal & Sikkim Recent &  
Forthcoming Events Errors Freaks & Oddities: Red Missing PFR Saif Shines on  
Aussie Stamp

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We are pleased to report that we now have 100 percent safe and secure control on email system at the stampsofindia.com.

We take this opportunity to thank the readers of this digital weekly for their support.

Until next week, please enjoy the rest of the newsletter.

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Kalyan Negal, and Chiranjib Chakraborty

We invite your inputs, please email to writeback@stampsofindia.com

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If you've found this newsletter useful, recommend it to a friend. Better still, forward a copy of this issue. Also, please mention this newsletter when contacting other philatelists.

Report the philatelic activities in your area for publication here. We shall reimburse the costs incurred on images, philatelic items issued, publications, courier and other agreed charges.

Please send your queries in detail (images welcome) on all matters related to Philately and Postal History of India and Indian States. We will attempt to find an answer for you.

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## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BEST STAMP OF 2005

One of the stamps from the set to mark the 75th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's March to Dandi (#14) and one of the stamps from the set to mark the 150 years of India Post (#30) tied for the everyone's favorite stamp of 2005.

There was a tie again for the 2nd spot between another stamp from the set to mark the 75th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's March to Dandi (#16) and the stamp to mark 200 years of the State bank of India (#24).

The runners up are #13 (One of the stamps from the set to mark the 75th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's March to Dandi), # 32 (one of the stamps from the set to mark the 150 years of India Post), #42 (Newborn Health in India), #44(Builder's Navy), and #47 (Jadavpur University).

The prize winners will be announced in the next issue.

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### FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Apr 12: Joint Issue with Cyprus, Set of 2, Rs 15 each + Miniature Sheet

This issue along with the First Day Cover and the information sheet, at Rs 2 each, shall be available on sale at nearly 1000 selected Post Offices including all Philatelic Bureaus and Counters in the country.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2006, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2006stamps.htm>

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### NEW STAMPS RELEASED

#### INDIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Minister of Agriculture & Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Sharad Pawar released a commemorative postage stamp on Indian Agricultural Research Institute to mark the Centenary Year of the Institute on March 30, 2006 at New Delhi.

Dr Shakeel Ahmad the Minister of State for Communication and IT, Brijesh Kumar Secretary IT, Dr Mangala Rai Director General ICAR, Dr A K Singh Director IARI, Senior faculty members of Indian Agricultural Research Institute were present among a number of other dignitaries, agricultural scientists and experts.

The Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) is the leading institution for research and advanced education in agricultural science in India. It was established in 1905 as the Imperial Agricultural Research Institute, and was recognized as a 'deemed university' in 1958 by an act of Parliament and since then it has awarded Masters and Doctorate degrees. It is financed and administered by the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR). The IARI was responsible for the research leading to the "Green revolution" of the 1970s.

The campus was originally located in Pusa, a village in North Bihar and was shifted after the devastating earthquake of Bihar in 1934 to New Delhi in 1936 to a place which is since called Pusa in New Delhi.

Kamleshwar Singh designed the Stamp and the First Day Cover. Alka Sharma

designed the pictorial first day postmark. Brochure containing write-up and technical data was issued on the occasion. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs 2 each. India Security Press printed the stamps by Photo Gravure in the quantity of 0.8 million in sheets of 35.

Apr 01:

62 CAVALRY

India Post has issued a Commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on the Golden Jubilee of the 62 Cavalry, on April 1, 2006

62 Cavalry has the dual honor of being the first Armored Regiment to be raised in Independent India, as also the first raised on Tanks. It was on 1st July, 1956 that raising orders were issued and the Regiment was declared fit for war on 31st March, 1957.

It may be recalled that in the 1965 Indo-Pak war the regiment proved its excellence in the battle as well as in capturing Phillora.

In the 1971 war, the regiment was the first to be formed as an independent combat group of the Indian Army tasked to launch an audacious offensive into the enemy territory.

On March 31, 1981, on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the Regiment, former President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy presented the Guidon to the Regiment.

The Regiment has been successfully deployed during Operation Trident, Operation Vijay and Operation Parakram.

Kamleshwar Singh designed the Stamp and the First Day Cover. Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. Brochure containing write-up and technical data was issued on the occasion. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs 2 each. India Security Press printed the stamps by Photo Gravure in the quantity of 0.8 million in sheets of 35.

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POSTAL STATIONERY UPDATES

New Arrivals:

Mar 13, 2006: Inland Letter Card with advertisement, in English, Bobcards, 2 million, Security Printing Press Hyderabad, in Orange color

For a list of Inland Letter Cards in 2005, please visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2006ILC.htm>

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FAREWELL TO THE POSTMASTER GENERAL NORTH BENGAL & SIKKIM Siliguri Philatelists Society and Sikkim Philatelists Society organized a function to bid farewell to the outgoing Post Master General of North Bengal and Sikkim Region - John Samuel on the evening of March 12, 2005 at Deokota Sangha in Siliguri.

The two hour long event was a not only about Samuel's contribution to the growth of philately in this region but also a tribute to philately in this region and was attended by a large number of the philatelists.

Samuel quoted famous philosophers to stress the need to develop stamp collection as a hobby. He said that it is not an easy task to promote

philately in North Bengal and Sikkim, "we had to face great odds while working here", he recalled. Samuel shared his views on Siliguri- calling Siliguri as one of his two favorite towns, and said that he had no doubt that it would emerge as one of the top cities in India in the coming years. He remarked before looking back with pride at having successfully organized several philatelic shows and competitions in the region, bringing out several special covers at regular intervals and achieving the rare distinction of being the postal region in the country to have published the largest number of the different varieties of stamp booklets on the natural and cultural heritage of North Bengal and Sikkim. Samuel said "the dollars and yens are pouring in" the United Kingdom's Royal Mail has offered to sell our Darjeeling Tea Post through post office throughout England. After years in shadow philately in this region is suddenly basking in limelight and now its time for a big push.

Samuel and his wife Ramola were presented with a citation by the members of the two societies.

The President of Siliguri Philatelists Society, Surya Kanta Biswas emphasized the need to develop philately as a vocation. The Secretary of the SPS Pawan Kumar Agarwal suggested that the pursuit be made a subject of study in schools and colleges and even at post graduate level. Among the other philatelists, Padam Parajuli spoke about the establishment of the societies. Ramesh Sewa, the Additional Director of Postal Services also spoke on the occasion. Chiranjib Chakraborty, Convener of SPS, delivered the vote of thanks.

The society also congratulated the silver medal winner Shashank Agarwal, the bronze medal winners Manoranjan Sharma, Biswajit Bhattacharya, Surnima Parajuli, and Chiranjib Chakraborty for their success in the Stamp Show 2005, held in December, 2005 at Kolkata.

The visual of this report is available at  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/267-plus.htm>

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

For a list of exhibitions in 2006, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/events.htm>

MEETINGS

The schedule of meetings of the philatelic organizations in India is available at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/clubmeet.htm>

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ERRORS FREAKS & ODDITIES: RED MISSING PFR Pradeep Agarwal of Patna has contributed missing red color in the recent President's Review of Fleet issue.

For the images please visit:  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/efos/1780.htm>

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ITS Postal Auction No.32 - Last Date: 22 April, 2006 available at <http://www.indianthematicociety.com/auctions.aspx> More Lots for sale available at <http://www.ebay.in/> with id itsjaitly. visit <http://itsjaitly.blogspot.com/> for some other interesting items from stock <http://www.auctiva.com/stores/viewstoreitems.aspx?id=97521>

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FEATURES & RESOURCES

Indian Laws Relevant to Philately  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/laws.htm>

Report Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud related to Indian Philately  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/cybercrime.htm>

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NEWSSCAN

<We invite you to contribute clippings on philatelic and postal matters, from other print and electronic publications, for inclusion here>

The Telegraph, April 4, 2006, Kolkata  
SAIF SHINES ON AUSSIE STAMP  
[http://www.telegraphindia.com/1060404/asp/nation/story\\_6054749.asp](http://www.telegraphindia.com/1060404/asp/nation/story_6054749.asp)

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ADMINISTRIVIA

'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is published by Madhukar Jhingan mjhingan@yahoo.com for 'Stamps of India', 49-D, BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063. Phone: +91-11-25281578, Mobile: +91-9350537037 Subject to Delhi Jurisdiction

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STAMPS OF INDIA <http://www.stampsofindia.com> The Hub Site of Indian Philately

PRINCELY STATES REPORT <http://www.princelystates.com> Journal of Indian States History, Philately & Numismatics

STAMPS ON INDIA <http://www.stampsonindia.com> The site devoted to the stamps from all over the world on Indian topics

INDIAN POSTAL GUIDE 1869

The first issue of the official postal guide, reprinted by Stamps of India 2004, 236 pages, hardbound, enlarged from original octavo to A4 size, limited edition, Special price - Rs 2750 post paid worldwide.

Credit cards accepted <http://www.stampsofindia.com/99999.htm>

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